Course Syllabus
Wycliffe College
Toronto School of Theology

This description is intended to assist in the course approval process and to assist students in determining whether this course will help them achieve their educational objectives and the learning goals of their program. It is not a learning contract. The details of the description are subject to change before the course begins. The course syllabus will be available to the class at the beginning of the course.

Course Identification

Course Number : WYT3215HF
Course Name: The Image of God
Campus: St. George

Instructor Information

Instructor: Peter Robinson
E-mail: peter.robinson@wycliffe.utoronto.ca
Office Hours:

Teaching Assistant:
E-mail:

Course Prerequisites or Requisites

This course is part of the Honor's M.Div. stream and is intended for students in their third year.

Course Description

To explore what it means to 'be in Christ' with particular reference to the question of the Imago Dei. Students will read from a wide variety of sources and explore different understandings of the Imago Dei from Western and Eastern Orthodox theologians. We will look at how these varied perspectives on the Imago Dei have informed classical theological categories including Trinitarian theology, Christology, Pneumatology, Theological Anthropology, Ecclesiology and Soteriology. These theological understandings will then be applied to appraise concepts of sanctification, a variety of ecclesial models and other issues of praxis.

Course Methodology

Lectures, readings, précis, discussion, discussion leadership, final project or paper

Course Outcomes

COURSE OUTCOMES	COURSE ELEMENT	PROGRAM OUTCOMES
By the end of this course, students	This outcome will be achieved through these course elements:	This course outcome corresponds to these aspects of Wycliffe's statements of outcomes (MTS, MDiv)
• cultivate a critical appreciation for a variety of theological	Readings, lectures, final project or paper	**MDiv:** 1.3–1.5

perspectives from East and West, from patristic writers until today;		
• learn how to carefully read theological papers in their context including identifying and describing key issues in a theological argument;	Readings, précis, weekly questions	**MDiv:** 2.1, 2.2
• develop the skill of writing précis as a tool in refining their skills in reading and summarizing theological arguments;	Précis	**MDiv:** 2.1, 2.2
• grapple with major theological categories and their interrelatedness through focusing on a central theological category;	Lectures, readings, discussion	**MDiv:** 1.3
• nurture their understanding of how theology informs ministry praxis.	Readings, discussion leadership	**MDiv:** 3.1, 3.2

Course Resources

Required Course Texts

- A Course Reader will be available from the Wycliffe College Front Desk.

Course Website(s)

- Blackboard https://weblogin.utoronto.ca/

This course uses Blackboard for its course website. To access it, go to the UofT portal login page at http://portal.utoronto.ca and login using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in to the portal using your UTORid and password, look for the **My Courses** module, where you'll find the link to the website for all your Blackboard-based courses. (Your course registration with ROSI gives you access to the course website at Blackboard.) Note also the information at http://www.portalinfo.utoronto.ca/content/information-students. Students who have trouble accessing Blackboard should ask Thomas Power for further help.

Class Schedule

Week 1 (September 17) Introduction; Read Genesis Chapters 1–12.

Week 2 (September 24) Read chapter 1 of Richard Middleton, *The Liberating Image*. Look up passages from the bible on the term 'image of God' and put together a short reflection on it. E.g., Genesis, 1 Corinthians 15:45–49.

Week 3 (October 1) Augustine on the Trinity (Augustine – Book 12: 5–7 and Books 14:6–19).

Week 4 (October 8) Calvin – Institutes Bk 1 ch XV Discussion of Human nature as created… pp. 183–96, Bk 2 Ch 12:3–7, Calvin's Commentary on Genesis chapter 1:26,27.

Week 5 (October 15) Irenaeus Against Heresies III.18, IV. 38, V. 1,2, 6, 7, 8, 16.

Week 6 (October 22) Vladimir Lossky – *Image and Likeness* ch7 pp 125–39 ('The Theology of the Image') and Ch 6 In *The Mystical Theology of the Eastern Church,* pp 114–34.

Week 7 (October 29) Reading Week.

Week 8 (November 5) Panayiotis Nellas – *Deification in Christ* – ch 1. p.21–42 image, and p.109–14.

Week 9 (November 12) – Karl Barth – *Church Dogmatics* 3.1, pp 182–206.

Week 10 (November 19) Cornelius Plantinga Jr., 'Images of God' in *Christian Faith and Practice in the Modern World.*

Week 11 (November 26) Zizioulas – Human Capacity and Incapacity, SJT 1972.

Week 12 (December 3) Miroslav Volf – *After our Likeness,* chapter 5 'Trinity and Church'.

Week 13 (December 10) Colin Gunton – ''Trinity, Ontology and Anthropology: Towards a Renewal of the Imago Dei" in *Persons Divine and Human.*

Evaluation

Requirements

Class Participation (including submission of questions each week)	20%
(Questions on the assigned readings are to be posted on blackboard two days before class.)	
Précis- see handout. (at least five times during term)	15 %
Leadership of discussion. (This will include providing a brief planned outline of the discussion with salient points)	30 %
Final project or Paper (due the last class)	35%

Grading System

Letter Grade	Numerical Equivalents	Grade Point	Grasp of Subject Matter
A+	90–100%	4.0	Profound & Creative
A	85–89%	4.0	Outstanding
A-	80–84%	3.7	Excellent
B+	77–79%	3.3	Very Good
B	73–76%	3.0	Good
B-	70–72%	2.7	Satisfactory
FZ	0–69%	0	Failure

Grades without numerical equivalent:

CR   Designates credit; has no numerical equivalent or grade point value

NCR   Designates failure; has no numerical equivalent, but has a grade point value of 0 and is included in
          the GPA calculation

SDF   Standing deferred (a temporary extension)

INC   Permanent incomplete; has no numerical equivalent or grade point value

WDR   Withdrawal without academic penalty

AEG   May be given to a final year student who, because of illness, has completed at least 60% of the
          course, but not the whole course, and who would not otherwise be able to convocate; has no
          numerical equivalent and no grade point value

Each Week

- Read in detail the assigned reading taking notes and recording questions for clarification and
  questions on theological issues.
- Write a précis on the assigned reading. Maximum length is to be one side of a single page 8.5 by 11
  size 12 font (Times New Roman), 1.5 line spacing. Précis are due at the beginning of class each
  week.
- Email two questions to the class by the Sunday evening before the class.
- Be prepared to discuss the assigned reading in class.

Leadership of Discussion:

Brief presentation – ½ hour to 45 minutes at the beginning of the class.

Provide:

- a brief outline about the author (including salient issues) (a copy of the outline is to be emailed to the
  instructor before class with a hard copy available in class.
- a brief overview of the reading – not just a survey or an outline but drawing out key theological
  issues.
- highlight underlying concerns or other thinkers that must be addressed.
- Comment on assigned reading in the context of issues previously discussed in class.

Question time – approximately 1.5 hours.

- Develop questions that facilitate a discussion on the assigned readings. Including a question on the
  relationship of theology to praxis in the context of the assigned reading.

Final Research Paper

The final project is intended to further your studies in the area of the Imago Dei and the implications for
theological issues and practical ministry. You may choose to do further research on one of the authors we
have studied, you may choose to do a topical paper or you may choose to compare two or more theologians
on this issue. Whatever approach you choose you should devote at least part of the paper to one or more
practical issues which arise out of your research. The final topic for your research paper will be determined in
consultation with the instructor.

You will engage with a variety of theological resources for your paper. The short bibliography below provides a starting point for your research it is not intended to be exhaustive. You may use a combination of journals, online resources as well as theology texts.   It is fine to agree in part and disagree in part with the theologians you engage with. The key is to offer solid reasons for your position. Your paper must be properly referenced with either footnotes or endnotes. It will also include a bibliography listing all the sources accessed for the paper.

You will be graded on the following four criteria:

- Evidence of adequate research.
- Theological development of the issue
- Structure of your argument
- Creativity.

The final research paper is due on December 4th and will be approximately 3500 words in length

Policy on Assignment Extensions

Basic Degree students are expected to complete all course work by the end of the term in which they are registered. Under **exceptional circumstances**, with the written permission of the instructor, students may request an extension (SDF = "standing deferred") beyond the term. An extension, when offered, will have a mutually agreed upon deadline that does not extend beyond the conclusion of the following term. An SDF must be requested no later than the last day of classes of the term in which the course is taken. The request form is available on the college website or from the Registrar's office.

One percentage point per day will be deducted on the course grade if an extension has not been requested by the stated deadline.

Course grades. Consistently with the policy of the University of Toronto, course grades submitted by an instructor are reviewed by a committee of the instructor's college before being posted. Course grades may be adjusted where they do not comply with University grading policy (http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/grading.pdf) or college grading policy.

Policies

Accessibility. Students with a disability or health consideration are entitled to accommodation. Students must register at the University of Toronto's Accessibility Services offices; information is available at http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/. The sooner a student seeks accommodation, the quicker we can assist.

Plagiarism. Students submitting written material in courses are expected to provide full documentation for sources of both words and ideas in footnotes or endnotes. Direct quotations should be placed within quotation marks. (If small changes are made in the quotation, they should be indicated by appropriate punctuation such as brackets and ellipses, but the quotation still counts as a direct quotation.) Failure to document borrowed material constitutes plagiarism, which is a serious breach of academic, professional, and Christian ethics. An instructor who discovers evidence of student plagiarism is not permitted to deal with the situation individually but is required to report it to his or her head of college or delegate according to the TST *Basic Degree Handbook* (linked from http://www.tst.edu/academic/resources-forms/handbooks and the University of Toronto *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm), a student who plagiarizes in this course. Students will be assumed to have read the document "Avoidance of plagiarism in theological writing" published by the Graham Library of Trinity and Wycliffe Colleges (http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library_Archives/Theological_Resources/Tools/Guides/plag.htm).

Turnitin.com. Students may be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.

Other academic offences. TST students come under the jurisdiction of the University of Toronto Code of *Behaviour on Academic Matters* (http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm).

Writing Style. The writing standard for the Toronto School of Theology is Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations*, 7th edition (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007), which is available at Crux Books.

Bibliography

Augustine. *The Trinity*, trans. Edmund Hill; ed. John E. Rotelle. New York: New City Press, 1991.

Barth, Karl. *Church Dogmatics*, Vol 3 Part 1, 2, G.W.Bromily and T.F. Torrance eds, trans. G.W.Bromily et.al. T&T Clark, Edinburgh, 1956-75

Basil of Caesarea, *The Nicene and Post Nicene Fathers* – Second Series, Schaff and Wace.

Calvin, *The Institutes of the Christian Religion* 1.

Canlis, Julie. "Calvin, Osiander and Participation in God," *IJST*, Vol 6:2 (2004).

Craig, Edward. *The mind of God and the works of Man*. Oxford: Claredon Press, 1985.

Grenz, Stanley. *The Social God and the Relational Self: A Trinitarian Theology of the Imago Dei*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2001.

Gunton, Colin. 'Trinity, Ontology and Anthropology: Towards a Renewal of the Doctrine of the Imago Dei.' In *Persons Divine and Human*, C. Schwoebel and C. Gunton, eds. Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1991, pp. 47–64

Lossky, Vladimir. *In the Image and Likeness of God*. Crestwood, NY: St Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1974.

Mantzarides, Georgios. *The Deification of Man*. Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1984.

McFarland, Ian A. *The Divine Image; Envisioning the Invisible God*. Minneapolis, Fortress Press, 2005.

Middleton, Richard. *The Liberating Image: The Imago Dei in Genesis 1*. Grand Rapids, MI, Brazos Press, 2005: http://jrichardmiddleton.wordpress.com/2014/08/05/further-thoughts-on-the-imago-dei-after-the-liberating-image/

Nellas, Panayiotis. *Deification in Christ: Orthodox Perspectives on the Nature of the Human Person*. Trans. N. Russel. Crestwood, NY: Saint Vladimir's Seminar Press, 1987.

Gregory of Nyssa, *The Nicene and Post Nicene Fathers* – Second Series, Schaff and Wace.

Plantinga, Cornelius, Jr. "Images of God." In *Christian Faith and Practice in the Modern World: Theology from an Evangelical Point of View*, Mark Noll and David F. Wells, eds. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1988, pp. 51–67.

Thunberg, Lars. *Man and the Cosmos: The Vision of Maximus the Confessor*. Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir Seminary Press, 1985.

———. *Microcosm and Mediator: The Theological Anthropology of Maximus the Confessor*. 2nd ed. Peru, I: Open Court Pub., 1995.

Volf, Miroslav. *After Our Likeness, The Church as the Image of the Trinity*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1998.

Weinandy, Thomas G., "St Irenaeus and the Imago Dei; The Importance of Being Human", *Logos* 6:4 (Fall 2003).

Zizioulas, John. 'Human Capacity and Human Incapacity.' *Scottish Journal of Theology* 28 (1975): pp. 401–48.